

Jackson County, Missouri

Commissioners
Howard Lotven, Chairman
Roger Davis
Mary Shannon
Keith Curnutt
Jacquelyn Eidson
Davin Gordon



Jackson County Courthouse
415 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816)881-3670

Ethics, Human Relations, and Citizen Complaints Commission

<p>Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 20, 2023 Fourth Regular Meeting</p>

1. Call to Order

Roger Davis called the fourth regular meeting of the Ethics, Human Relations, and Citizen Complaints Commission to order.

2. Roll Call

Present 5 – Mary Shannon, Davin Gordon, Jacquelyn Eidson, Roger Davis, Keith Curnutt

Absent NONE

Excused – Howard Lotven

A motion was made by Davin Gordon, seconded by Mary Shannon, to excuse the absence of Howard Lotven. The motion passed by voice vote.

3. Introduction of OEHRCC Staff and Guests

Present – Director Chris Crawford, Complaint Officer, Anita Mackerel, Administrative Assistant Alexandria Gold-Barnes, James Frank Abbott

4. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Keith Curnutt and seconded by Davin Gordon to approve the minutes from the March 16, 2023 meeting of the EHRCC Commission. The motion passed by voice vote.

5. Director's Report & Case Summaries

Director Crawford notes that the number of complaints the office has received through March is fifty-nine. The office received sixty complaints in total last year.

Complaints regarding the assessment department are declining as people complete their assessment declarations. Wait times both in person and on the phone are decreasing as well. Finishing the declaration process, the assessment department plans to implement technology and process improvements.

Following the closure of the Truman Courthouse for plumbing repairs, temporary restrooms were placed outside. The office received complaints regarding the state of the restrooms and that they were not notified that restrooms were located outside. The repairs should be completed in several weeks.

The administration plans to hold Board of Equalization and Assessment appeal hearings at the new administrative building. Temporary signage will be placed to notify citizens of hearings taking place. Parking will be available for anyone attending.

The assessment department held four community engagement meetings. Presentations were given to inform citizens about the upcoming reassessment and the general functions of the assessment department. Citizens were allowed to ask questions and voice their concerns. It's reported that attendance was high at all meetings.

Regarding the new administrative building, design plans are being finalized and will be going out to bid. There is a ten-to-fourteen-month time frame for building completion. A small number of assessment department employees are working in the new building to alleviate congestion at the downtown courthouse. Departments and employees will be gradually moved in as construction progresses.

The OEHRCC has received new phones as part of the county's effort to implement a new phone system. The new phone system sees lower wait times, more open phone lines, and better customer interaction when citizens call the county.

Director Crawford met with the county executive's office regarding the vacancy on the commission. A new nominating committee is being appointed to select a new commissioner to fill the vacancy.

Anita Mackerel presented case summaries #38-59 received in March 2023.

CASE #38

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #39

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #40

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #41

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #42

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #43

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #44

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #45

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #46

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #47

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #48

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #49

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #50

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #51

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #52

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #53

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #54

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #55

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #56

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #57

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #58

Reviewed, no questions

CASE #59

Reviewed, no questions

A motion was made by Keith Curnutt, seconded by Davin Gordon to approve the Director's Report with the case summaries. The motion passed by a voice vote.

6. New Business

NONE

7. Unfinished Business

NONE

8. Public Comments

James Abbott states that he is upset with how he has been treated both by the commission and the OEHRCC. He states that his complaints were put in a pile and disregarded. Mr. Abbott enters a request to have Mr. Lotven removed as chairman of the commission.

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Keith Curnutt, seconded by Mary Shannon. The motion passed by a voice vote.